Revival of Indian Folk Culture and Arts

†194. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to indifferent attitude of government most of Indian traditional folk cultures are vanishing/disappearing;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to formulate any concrete policy to revive the Indian folk art;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to fall in the number of tourists on account of terrorism the folk artists of Rajasthan are on the verge of starvation; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken by Government to keep the Indian folk cultures alive and to save the artists from starvation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Ministry of Culture, Government of India supports traditional folk art and culture through seven zoanl Cultural Centres. The Ministry of Culture also has a Scheme for promotion and dissemination of tribal/folk art and culture. Under this scheme financial assistance is provided to voluntary organizations and individuals engaged in the preservation and promotion of tribal/folk art. This scheme covers the entire country.

(c) and (d) Government of India in the Department of Tourism have informed that there has been a decline of about 20% in foreign tourist arrivals in the months of September and October, 2001 as compared to the same period of the year 2000. However, state-wise tourist arrival figures for this period are not available.

Supervision over Cooperative Banks

195. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite warnings by Registrar of Cooperative Societies and RBI's inspection report March, 2001, the Krushi Bank Management could withdraw funds beyond prescribed norms leading to run on the bank; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.